

# Slip, Trip, and Fall Prevention Checklist

Slips, trips, and falls are among the most common and preventable workplace injuries, and can result in employee harm, lost productivity, and increased claim costs. A proactive approach focused on housekeeping, hazard identification, safe behaviors, and leadership accountability can help reduce risk and strengthen overall safety culture.

This checklist is intended as a starting point to support slip, trip, and fall prevention efforts. It does not cover every possible condition, hazard, or environment. Each facility is different, so please review, adapt, and expand the checklist to fit your specific operations, regulatory requirements, and risk exposures.



## 1. Housekeeping and Walkway Management

- Walkways, aisles, and work areas are free of clutter.
- Materials, boxes, tools, and equipment are properly stored and not left “temporarily” in pathways.
- High traffic pathways are wide enough and free of obstructions.
- Cords, hoses, and cables are secured, routed overhead, or covered with approved cord covers.
- Mats and rugs are flat, clean, non curling, and anchored with non slip backing.
- Trash and debris are removed promptly and not allowed to accumulate.
- “No storage at corners or blind turns” to prevent sudden obstacles.
- Shelving and racks are secured so items cannot fall into walkways.
- Floor drains are clear, unobstructed, and functioning.
- End of shift “reset” or 5-minute cleanups are consistently performed.



## 2. Spill Control

- All employees understand “clean spills immediately without exceptions.”
- Spill kits, absorbents, and basic cleaning supplies are stocked and accessible.
- Employees know who to notify for large or hazardous spills.
- Walkways are dry and free of moisture, condensation, or tracked-in water.
- Mop buckets, wet vacs, or spill pads are located near high risk areas.
- High risk areas (coolers, kitchens, docks, auto bays) have defined spill response owners per shift.
- Slippery product hazards (oils, powders, food items) have product specific cleanup instructions posted.

## 3. Floor Surface Conditions

- Floors are smooth, even, and free of cracks, chips, or loose tiles.
- Transitions between surfaces (carpet to tile, ramps, thresholds) are clearly marked and in good repair.
- Any damaged flooring is reported promptly using the established process (QR code, form, etc.).
- Stairs, platforms, and ramps are stable, slip-resistant, and well-maintained.
- Handrails are secure, continuous, and available where required.

## 4. Lighting and Visibility

- All bulbs are functioning; no dark areas or shadows in walkways.
- Exterior walkways, entryways, and loading zones are well lit.
- Lighting checks occur on a defined schedule (daily/weekly).
- Reflective tape or high visibility paint highlights elevation changes, stair edges, or low obstacles.
- Motion activated sensors are functioning.
- Backup lighting or emergency lighting is checked during power tests.

## 5. Safe Walking, Working, and Footwear Standards

- Employees avoid texting, reading, or looking at screens while working or moving throughout the site.
- Loads carried do not obstruct line of sight.
- Employees walk (do not run) in operational or high-traffic areas.
- Employees use handrails where provided.
- Employees do not stand on chairs, crates, or unstable items (approved step stools or ladders only).
- Employees comply with established footwear requirements for traction and tread quality.
- Smooth-soled or worn-out shoes are prohibited in operational areas.
- Footwear compliance is verified periodically.
- Employees proactively report worn tread or traction loss (“exchange before failure” approach).
- Partnerships with slip-resistant footwear vendors are in place to support subsidized employee pricing, where applicable.

## 6. Weather and Seasonal Controls

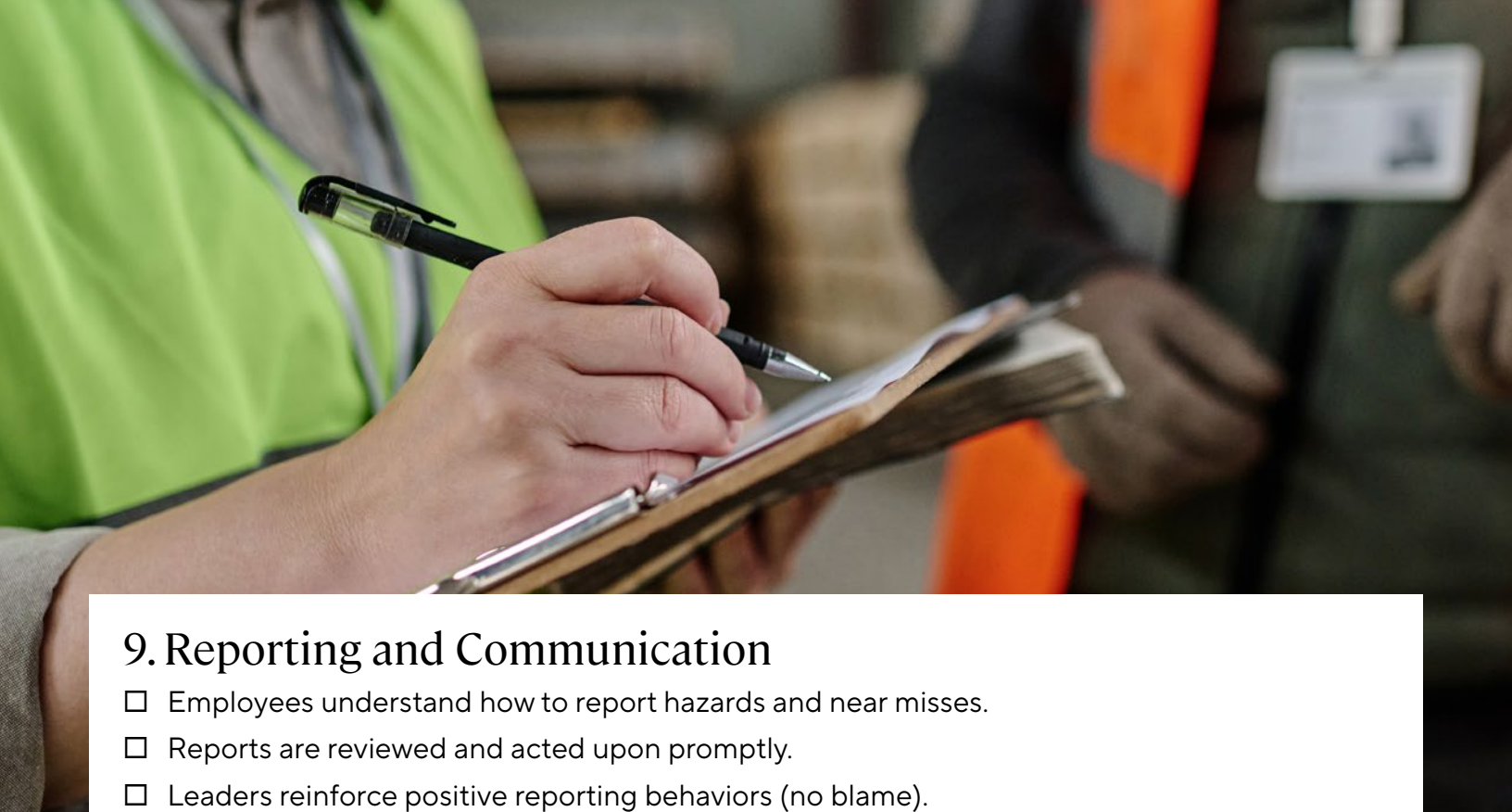
- Entrance mats are in place, clean, and replaced as they become saturated.
- Rock salt, ice melt, or traction materials are staged before weather events.
- A designated person monitors entryways during storms.
- Exterior sidewalks, loading areas, and parking lots are treated for snow/ice.
- Temporary mats, umbrella bag stations, or canopy covers are used in rain/snow seasons.
- Contracted snow/ice vendors have clear expectations (response time, pretreating, documentation).
- Exterior drainage (downspouts, gutters) is inspected to prevent ice sheets from runoff.

## 7. Signage, Markings and Visual Controls

- “Wet Floor” signs are available, clean, and placed properly near (not on) the hazard.
- Signs are removed promptly after the hazard is corrected.
- Floor tape, decals, or arrows guide traffic and mark safe walking routes.
- High risk areas include “Walk, Don’t Rush” or “Watch Your Step” cues.
- Visual controls highlight edges, drop-offs, or uneven floors.

## 8. Equipment and Tools

- Step stools and ladders are available, inspected, and in good condition.
- No makeshift climbing devices (chairs, bins, pallets).
- Cart wheels and casters roll smoothly without drift or wobble.
- Pallet jacks and carts don’t block walkways when parked.



## 9. Reporting and Communication

- Employees understand how to report hazards and near misses.
- Reports are reviewed and acted upon promptly.
- Leaders reinforce positive reporting behaviors (no blame).
- Near miss trends are reviewed to identify root causes and hotspots.
- Slip/trip reminders are included in regular safety huddles or toolbox talks.
- Incident photos are required for all slip/trip events to support root-cause learning.
- Completed corrective actions are verified, not just logged (close the loop workflow).

## 10. Leadership and Culture

- Supervisors model safe behaviors and immediately address hazards.
- A defined inspection checklist is completed on schedule (daily/weekly/monthly).
- Findings are documented with corrective actions and follow through.
- Safety expectations are clearly communicated and consistently reinforced.
- Employees are encouraged to speak up when they see unsafe conditions or behaviors.
- Recognition issued for employees who proactively identify hazards before an incident.
- Leaders conduct periodic “walk the floor with an employee” observations for coaching.

## Optional Add Ons for a Stronger Program

- Annual facility slip resistance audit.
- Traction improving coatings in key areas.
- Seasonal slip prevention campaigns.
- Department scorecards with slip/trip KPIs.
- Random “spot checks” during high risk seasons.